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Seat Belt Usage and Driver Attitude Survey, May 1981: A Summary Report



Ontario

Ministry of
Transportation and
Communications

Policy
Planning and
Research Division

Seat Belt Usage and Driver Attitude Survey, May 1981: A Summary Report

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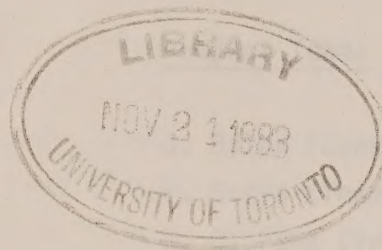
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1/ Driver seat belt usage decreased by 5.1% from May 1978 (64.4%) to May 1981 (59.3%). Differences in driver seat belt usage were found between regions, rural/urban areas, sexes, age groups, seat belt systems, makes and model years of vehicle.
- 2/ Passenger seat belt usage increased very slightly from May 1978 (47.0%) to May 1981 (48.9%). Differences in passenger seat belt usage were observed between regions, rural/urban areas, sexes, age groups and passenger position. It was also observed that there was a greater tendency for passengers to be restrained when the driver was wearing a seat belt.
- 3/ Child safety seat usage has increased significantly from 1978 to 1981 (21.0% to 33.1%) for children under six years of age. Child safety seat usage was greater than regular seat belt usage for children less than three years of age, however, the opposite was true for children greater than three years of age.
- 4/ "Safety" and the "Law" were identified as the main reasons for drivers wearing their seat belts (50.0% and 35.6% respectively). "Unnecessary" (26.0%), "Inconvenient" (25.6%) and "Forgot" (25.5%) were identified as the main reasons for drivers not using their seat belts.
- 5/ Drivers did not perceive a high level of enforcement of the seat belt law in their driving area as almost half (49.9%) of the drivers sampled felt it would be a year or more before they were stopped by police for not wearing their seat belt.
- 6/ About 69.1% of drivers with children under five years of age in their household owned child safety seats. Drivers with children under five and who owned child safety seats reported that 57.7% of the children under five used child safety seats "always".
- 7/ In general, drivers were not sure of the present seat belt legislation in Ontario as it relates to children under five years of age. Of the drivers surveyed, 55.8% thought that children under five

years of age were required by law to use child safety seats and 44.2% of the surveyed drivers felt that children under five years of age were required by law to use regular seat belts.

- 8/ A large percentage of drivers (93.7%) felt it was important for children under five years of age to use child safety seats and most drivers surveyed (82.3%) would favour a law requiring child safety seats for children under five years of age.
- 9/ Overall, 68.7% of the drivers surveyed were in favour of the present seat belt law. Driver support of the present seat belt law was higher among belted drivers than non-belted drivers.

1/ INTRODUCTION

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications has conducted six major Province-wide seat belt evaluation surveys. These were conducted on weekdays in October 1975, March 1976, just after legislation was enforced, November/ December 1976, May 1977, May 1978 and May 1981. A driver attitude survey was added in May 1977 and May 1978. The attitude survey was separate from the seat belt use survey in that drivers who were stopped for the attitude survey were not included in the seat belt use survey and vice versa. The May 1981 survey was developed to combine, modify and condense pertinent features of previous seat belt use and attitude surveys. New emphasis was placed on the observed, perceived and attitudinal information deemed pertinent to child safety restraint. An additional survey was conducted on Saturdays.

2/ DRIVER SEAT BELT USE

In general, seat belt usage has been declining over the past few years (Figure 1). As shown in Table 1, driver seat belt usage decreased by 5.1% from May 1978 to May 1981 (64.4% versus 59.3%, respectively). Significant decreases in driver seat belt use occurred in Toronto (down 10.3%), the East (down 6.2%) and the West (down 4.3%) while the Northwest and the Northeast remained at the same levels.

Driver seat belt usage in rural areas was higher than in urban areas. It is noteworthy that rural seat belt usage remained almost unchanged 64.7% in 1978 versus 64.0% in 1981, while a considerable drop in seat belt usage occurred in urban areas (64.4% in 1978 to 57.2% in 1981).

Female drivers were significantly more compliant than male drivers. As shown in Table 2, female drivers in 1981 had a seat belt usage of 66.9% as compared to male drivers at 55.6%. This pattern was also evident in the 1978 survey. Seat belt use for both sexes decreased significantly from 1978.

The survey revealed that older drivers, in general, tended to wear their seat belts more often than younger drivers. As shown in Table 3, drivers over 40 years of age and 36-40 years of age (seat belt use of 64.3% and 62.3%, respectively) had the highest usage rates. Drivers under 21 years of age had the lowest usage rate (48.6%). The relative distribution of seat belt usage for the various age categories is generally similar in 1978 and 1981. As shown in Table 4, females had higher usage rates than males in all age categories.

Most of the automobiles sampled in 1981 were equipped with automatic three-point seat belt systems (79.4%). In 1981, as shown in Table 5, drivers of automobiles with this type of seat belt system had a higher usage level (62.2%) than drivers with automobiles with other systems (belt use range of 24.9% to 54.4%). A similar pattern was observed in 1978.

As shown in Table 6, drivers of newer model cars (1974-1981) had a significantly higher usage level (a seat belt use range of 57.0% to 65.1%) than drivers of 1973 and older model cars (a seat belt use range of 39.4% to 54.0%).

Drivers of foreign manufactured cars had a higher level of usage (61.7%) than drivers of North American makes (57.3%) -- refer to Table 7.

3/ PASSENGER SEAT BELT USE

Passengers were grouped into three age categories. Passengers were classified as adults, if they were sixteen years of age or older, youths, if they were between six and fifteen years of age inclusive, and children, if they were less than six years of age. An overall passenger category combined the three types of passengers.

Overall, passenger seat belt use continued to be significantly below driver seat belt use in all regions of Ontario. As shown in Table 8, passenger seat belt use increased slightly from May 1978 (47.0%) to May 1981 (48.9%).

Similar to driver seat belt use, passenger seat belt use in rural areas was higher than in urban areas (52.3% versus 47.5%) -- refer to Table 8.

Female passengers had significantly higher seat belt usage rates than male passengers (50.5% versus 38.3%). As shown in Table 9, this pattern was also evident in 1978.

When examining specific age groups, the analysis showed that adult and youth passenger wearing rates remained at the same level (50.0% for adults and 41.0% for youths) while child (37.8% to 47.1%) wearing rates increased significantly. As shown in Table 10, child safety seat usage has increased significantly from 1978 to 1981 (21.0% to 33.1%) whereas regular seat belt use for children declined slightly by 2.8%, from 16.8% to 14.0% in 1981.

Table 11 gives an indication of passenger seat belt use by discrete age groups for adult passengers. In general, older adult passengers had higher seat belt use than younger adult passengers.

Child safety seat use was significantly greater than regular seat belt use for children under one year of age (53.8% versus 2.6%), children one year of age (69.1% versus 6.4%) and children two years of age (38.9% versus 11.4%). Three years of age seemed to be a "critical" age with respect to type of restraint used. Children three years of age were

restrained almost equally by child safety seats (17.9%) and regular seat belts (19.3%). As shown in Table 12, child safety seat use was significantly lower than regular seat belt use for children four years of age (9.6% versus 21.0%) and five years of age (2.9% versus 25.0%). The relative distribution is generally consistent with those observed in the 1978 survey.

There was a greater tendency for passengers to be wearing restraints when the driver was wearing a seat belt. As shown in Table 13, a significantly greater proportion of passengers were restrained when the driver was wearing a seat belt (69.0%) than when the driver was not belted (18.3%). Children were restrained by child safety seats and regular seat belts to a significantly higher degree when the driver was belted (38.9% and 18.9%, respectively) than when the driver was not belted (18.8% and 9.9%, respectively).

In general, front seat passengers had a higher level of usage than rear seat passengers (49.6% versus 42.6%). As shown in Table 14, this observation was true for adult passengers (52.1% versus 36.1%) and youth passengers (42.0% versus 34.9%). However, it was observed that child passengers had a higher level of seat belt child restraint usage in the rear seat (50.3%) as compared to the front seat (33.3%).

4/ RESPONSES TO QUESTIONNAIRE

Driver responses to various questions relating to children under five years of age, child safety seats, regular seat belts and the present seat belt law are summarized in the following sections.

4.1/ Reasons for Wearing/Not Wearing Seat Belts

"Safety" and the "Law" were identified as the main reasons for drivers wearing seat belts. As shown in Table 16, 50.0% of the drivers using seat belts said safety was a main factor in their use and 35.6% mentioned the law. Other responses were less frequent. The relative distribution of responses in 1981 was similar to those given in 1978.

Drivers not using seat belts mentioned "Unnecessary" (26.0%), "Inconvenient" (25.6%) and "Forgot" (25.5%) as their main reasons for not wearing their seat belt. About 23.0% of the drivers not wearing their seat belts gave other responses. Comparing driver responses in 1978 and 1981 revealed that in 1981 there were more "Unnecessary" and "Forgot" responses and fewer "Inconvenient" and "Other" responses (Table 17).

4.2/ Perception of Enforcement

In general, it can be inferred from the survey that drivers did not perceive a high level of enforcement of the seat belt law in their driving area and that the perception of the enforcement level has declined since 1978. Almost half (49.9%) of the drivers sampled in 1981 felt it would be a year or more before they were stopped by police for not wearing their seat belts compared to 40.0% of the drivers sampled in 1978 (see Table 18).

4.3/ Profile of Children Under Five in the Household, Ownership of Child Safety Seat(s), Number of Trips Taken with Children Under Five in the Car and Reported Frequency of Child Safety Seat Use and Regular Seat Belt Use

A total of 6961 drivers were surveyed. Of this total 1196 (17.2%) drivers had children under the age of five in their household. Most of the

drivers (69.1%) with children under five years of age in their household also owned child safety seats (Table 20).

Of the drivers with children under five years of age, 62.0% made between 1 and 5 trips per week with children under five in the car. Table 19 shows that 26.8% made between 6 and 10 trips per week and 11.2% made 11 or more trips.

The survey showed, when considering only drivers who had children under five years of age in the household and also owned at least one child safety seat, that 57.7% of the children in the household of these drivers were reported to use child safety seats "always" while 21.7% were reported to "never" use child safety seats. In general, children under five were reported to use child safety seats more frequently than regular seat belts by drivers who owned safety seats (see Table 21).

In comparison, 37.1% of the children under five in the households of drivers who did not own child safety seats were reported to use regular seat belts "always" while 22.9% were reported to "never" use regular seat belts (see Table 22).

No special pattern with respect to the number of trips taken with children under five years of age in the car and reported child safety seat and regular seat belt usage was observed.

4.4/ Driver Knowledge of the Present Seat Belt Legislation Relating to Children Under Five Years of Age

In general, drivers were unsure of the present seat belt legislation in Ontario as it relates to children under five years of age. As shown in Table 23, 55.8% of the drivers surveyed thought that children under five years of age were required by law to use child safety seats, whereas 18.5% said child safety seat usage was not required and 25.7% were uncertain.

There was a small difference in opinion between drivers who were wearing seat belts and drivers who were not wearing seat belts. Of the drivers not wearing seat belts, 58.4% thought child safety seat use was required by law as compared to 53.4% of the drivers who were belted.

It is noteworthy that 43.0% of the drivers with children under five years of age thought that child safety seats were required by law. By comparison, a much larger percentage of drivers (58.5%) without children under five thought child safety seats were required by law.

Of the drivers who had children under five and owned child safety seats, 43.4% felt that child safety seats were required by law compared to 36.6% of the drivers who had children under five but did not own child safety seats.

Drivers were also asked if children in Ontario under five years of age were required by law to use regular seat belts. In general, fewer drivers felt children under five years of age were required by law to use regular seat belts than child safety seats. As shown in Table 24, 44.2% of the drivers surveyed felt that children under five years of age were required by law to use regular seat belts, while 34.1% said it was not required and 21.4% did not know.

Similar to the question on child safety seat requirement, a greater percentage of drivers not wearing seat belts felt regular seat belt use was required than drivers who were wearing seat belts (44.5% versus 39.3%).

About forty-three percent (42.8%) of drivers without children under five thought that regular seat belts were required by law. By comparison, a greater percentage of drivers (50.9%) with children under five thought that regular seat belts were required by law.

It is noteworthy that a greater percentage of drivers with children under five years of age felt that regular seat belt usage was required by law than child safety seats. However, a greater percentage of drivers without children under five years of age felt that child safety seat use was required by law than regular seat belt use.

Of the drivers who had children under five and owned child safety seats, 48.1% felt that regular seat belts were required by law compared to a similar percentage of drivers (46.2%) who had children under five but did not own child safety seats.

4.5/ Importance of Child Safety Seat Utilization by Children Under Five Years of Age

A large percentage of drivers (93.7%) felt it was important for children under five years of age to use child safety seats. Only 3.4% of the drivers said it was not important and 2.9% did not know or gave another response.

Table 25 shows that a greater percentage of belted drivers felt it was more important (relatively) for children under five years of age to use child safety seats than unbelted drivers (95.1% versus 92.1%).

It is noteworthy that a greater percentage of drivers without children under five years of age felt it was important for children under five to use child safety seats than drivers who had children under five years of age (94.4% versus 90.3%).

A much greater percentage of the drivers who had children under five and owned child safety seats considered child safety seat usage to be important (95.0%) in comparison with 80.6% of the drivers who had children under five but did not own a child safety seat.

4.6/ Driver Support of Proposed Child Safety Seat Legislation

As shown in Table 26, most drivers surveyed (82.3%) would favour a law requiring child safety seats for children under five years of age.

Drivers wearing seat belts tended to favour a child safety seat law more than drivers who were not wearing seat belts. Overall, 84.9% of drivers wearing seat belts favoured this type of legislation as compared to 79.9% of unbelted drivers.

It is important to note that over three-quarters of the drivers with children under five years of age (76.0%) would favour a law requiring mandatory child safety seat usage for children under five and only 20.7% would be opposed to such a law. However, 83.6% of drivers without children under five would support this type of legislation and only 11.6% would oppose it. It is noteworthy that drivers without children under five years of age would support this type of legislation more than drivers with children under five.

A much greater percentage of drivers who had children under five and owned child safety seats would support proposed child safety seat legislation (83.4%) in comparison with drivers who had children under five but did not own child safety seats (64.3%).

4.7/ Driver Support of Present Seat Belt Law

Overall, 68.7% of the drivers surveyed were in favour of the present seat belt law. Slightly more than one-quarter of the drivers (25.2%) were not in favour of the law.

As shown in Table 27, driver support of the present seat belt law was higher among belted drivers than non-belted drivers. Just over seventy-seven percent (77.2%) of the belted drivers were in favour of the law but only 53.5% of the unbelted drivers were in support of the law.

It is interesting that 69.2% of the drivers without children under five years of age were in favour of the law compared to 66.2% of the drivers with children under five.

Of the drivers who had children under five and owned child safety seats, 66.5% were in favour of the present seat belt law compared to 61.4% of the drivers who had children under five but did not own child safety seats.

5/ SATURDAY SEAT BELT USE AND ATTITUDE (14 SITES)

Fourteen sites were sampled on Saturdays. Weekday and Saturday comparisons of seat belt use and attitude were limited to the fourteen sites sampled on both weekdays and Saturdays.

Seat belt use for drivers surveyed on Saturdays was similar to weekday belt use.

The wearing rates of adult passengers were similar for the weekday and Saturday surveys as were the wearing rates of youth passengers. Child passengers had slightly higher restraint usage on Saturdays than on weekdays.

Driver responses to the questionnaire were also similar on Saturdays and weekdays.

6/ EXPRESSWAY SEAT BELT USE

Expressway seat belt use (based on 2 sites) for drivers remained fairly constant in the last three years (69.0% in 1978 versus 69.2% in 1981). However, passenger seat belt use in general decreased by 10.7% from May 1978 to May 1981 (62.4% to 51.7%).

Table 1/ Driver Seat Belt Usage in May 1978 and May 1981

AREA	MAY 1978	MAY 1981
NORTHWEST	45.1% N=650	44.8% N=856
NORTHEAST	56.7% N=636	58.8% N=847
WEST	62.7% N=1133	58.4% N=1392
TORONTO	68.5% N=693	58.2% N=822
CENTRAL	62.0% N=1305	59.0% N=1678
EAST	74.0% N=1115	67.8% N=1366
PROVINCIAL	64.4% N=5532	59.3% N=6961
RURAL	64.7% N=1733	64.0% N=2238
URBAN	64.4% N=3799	57.2% N=4723

Table 2/ Driver Seat Belt Usage by Sex in May 1978 and May 1981

SEX	MAY 1978	MAY 1981
MALE	61.0% N=3701	55.6% N=4302
FEMALE	71.5% N=1816	66.9% N=2521

TABLE 3/ Driver Seat Belt Usage by Age in May 1978 and May 1981

AGE	MAY 1978	MAY 1981
Under 21	46.3% N=218	48.6% N=323
21-25	56.8% N=727	50.6% N=759
26-30	61.5% N=788	54.6% N=806
31-35	64.3% N=788	53.5% N=1063
36-40	68.2% N=833	62.3% N=976
Over 40	69.1% N=2069	64.3% N=2862

Table 4/ Driver Seat Belt Usage by Age by Sex in May 1981

AGE	MALE	FEMALE
Under 21	44.5% N=211	53.0% N=106
21-25	44.3% N=433	60.6% N=309
26-30	51.6% N=438	59.1% N=361
31-35	53.5% N=581	62.6% N=456
36-40	57.4% N=584	72.2% N=379
Over 40	60.4% N=1959	74.6% N=847

Table 5/ Driver Seat Belt Usage by System Installed in May 1978 and May 1981

SYSTEM	MAY 1978	MAY 1981
AUTOMATIC THREE POINT	69.0% N=3545	62.2% N=5307
MANUAL THREE POINT	26.3% N=28	24.9% N=265
AUTOMATIC LAP AND SHOULDER	45.9% N=100	34.6% N=109
MANUAL LAP AND SHOULDER	56.8% N=533	42.7% N=176
AUTOMATIC LAP & MANUAL SHLD	55.2% N=1017	54.4% N=657
AUTOMATIC LAP	41.3% N=83	31.7% N=56
MANUAL LAP	49.2% N=258	37.8% N=115

Table 6/ Driver Seat Belt Use by Car Model Year in May 1981

MODEL YEAR	BELT USE	NUMBER (N)
1964-1967	39.4%	75
1968-1971	48.6%	390
1972-1973	54.0%	641
1974	57.9%	448
1975	57.0%	549
1976	58.6%	743
1977	63.3%	776
1978	63.8%	877
1979	60.0%	902
1980	65.1%	981
1981	58.4%	539

Table 7/ Driver Seat Belt Use by Automobile Manufacturer in May 1981
(Unweighted)

MANUFACTURER	BELT USE	NUMBER (N)
NORTH AMERICAN	57.3%	6251
FOREIGN	61.7%	934

Note: N includes cars sampled at
two expressway locations
FOR THIS TABLE ONLY

Table 8/ Passenger Seat Belt Use In May 1978 and May 1981

AREA	MAY 1978	MAY 1981
NORTHWEST	30.9% N=403	34.3% N=501
NORTHEAST	42.1% N=330	50.1% N=458
WEST	48.3% N=499	45.9% N=633
TORONTO	43.9% N=228	50.0% N=251
CENTRAL	47.4% N=580	50.7% N=836
EAST	57.4% N=612	53.3% N=718
PROVINCIAL	47.0% N=2652	48.9% N=3397
RURAL	48.9% N=1083	52.3% N=1380
URBAN	46.5% N=1569	47.5% N=2017

**Table 9/ Passenger Seat Belt Use By Sex In
May 1978 and May 1981 (Unweighted)**

SEX	MAY 1978	MAY 1981
MALE	41.1% N=922	38.3% N=1146
FEMALE	48.3% N=1649	50.5% N=2056

Note: Passenger belt use in the above tables refers to the restraints used (seat belts and child safety seats) by all passengers (Adults, Youths and Children).

***Table 10/ Passenger Seat Belt Use By Age Classification In May 1978 and May 1981**

PASSENGER GROUP	MAY 1978 BELT USE	MAY 1981 BELT USE
ADULT	50.3% N=1930	49.4% N=2469
YOUTH	41.4% N=154	41.9% N=197
CHILD-SEAT BELT	16.8%	14.0%
CHILD-SAFETY SEAT	21.0%	33.1%
CHILD-TOTAL	37.8% N=568	47.1% N=731
OVERALL	47.0% N=2652	48.9% N=3397

***NOTE:** May 1978 data for this table was revised slightly due to interviewer-coder discrepancies. However, only minimum adjustments were made, Dec. 1981.

Table 11/ Passenger Seat Belt Use by Discrete Age-(Adult Passengers) in May 1981 (Unweighted)

AGE	BELT USE	NUMBER (N)
16-19	46.2%	143
20-29	36.0%	591
30-39	51.6%	450
40-49	51.9%	697
50-59	58.6%	210
60 and over	62.7%	332

Table 12/ Child Restraint Usage (Observed) in May 1978 and May 1981
(Unweighted)

AGE GROUP	MAY 1978			MAY 1981		
	CHILD SAFETY SEAT USE	REGULAR BELT USE	TOTAL	CHILD SAFETY SEAT USE	REGULAR BELT USE	TOTAL
LESS THAN 1	55.1%	5.1%	60.2% N=78	53.8%	2.6%	56.4% N=78
1-<2	31.3%	9.6%	40.9% N=105	69.1%	6.4%	75.5% N=94
2-<3	12.6%	18.0%	30.6% N=111	38.9%	11.4%	50.3% N=149
3-<4	6.7%	19.0%	25.7% N=115	17.9%	19.3%	37.2% N=140
4-<5	1.8%	25.7%	27.5% N=113	9.6%	21.0%	30.6% N=167
5-<6	2.2%	41.3%	43.5% N=46	2.9%	25.0%	27.9% N=68

Table 13/ Passenger Seat Belt Use by Age Group Under Driver Wearing/
Not Wearing Constraint in May 1981

ADULT		YOUTH		CHILD		OVERALL	
DRIVER BELTED	DRIVER UNBELTED	DRIVER BELTED	DRIVER UNBELTED	DRIVER BELTED	DRIVER UNBELTED	DRIVER BELTED	DRIVER UNBELTED
72.1%	14.9%	59.5%	3.0%	57.8%	28.7%	69.0%	18.3%
N=1473	N=996	N=104	N=93	N=387	N=344	N=1964	N=1433
				SEAT BELT	CHILD SAFETY SEAT	SEAT BELT	CHILD SAFETY SEAT
				18.9%	38.9%	9.9%	18.8%

Table 14/ Passenger Seat Belt Use by Seating Position by Age Group in May 1981 (Unweighted)

AGE GROUP	FRONT SEAT	REAR SEAT
ADULT	52.1% N=2067	36.1% N=402
YOUTH	42.0% N=88	34.9% N=109
CHILD	33.3% N=282	50.3% N=449
OVERALL	49.6% N=2437	42.6% N=960

Table 15/ Child Passenger Restraint Use in May 1981 (Unweighted)

RESTRAINT	FRONT SEAT	REAR SEAT
REGULAR SEAT BELT	17.0%	13.8%
CHILD SAFETY SEAT	16.3%	36.5%
OVERALL	33.3% N=282	50.3% N=449

**Table 16/ Main Reasons Given by Drivers for Wearing Seat Belts in
May 1978 and May 1981**

REASON	MAY 1978	MAY 1981
LAW	38.4%	35.6%
SAFETY	47.1%	50.0%
HABIT	7.0%	8.8%
OTHER	7.5%	5.6%
TOTAL	100.0% N=2151	100.0% N=3972

**Table 17/ Main Reasons Given by Drivers for Not Wearing Seat Belts in
May 1978 and May 1981**

REASON	MAY 1978	MAY 1981
INCONVENIENT	32.7%	25.6%
UNNECESSARY	23.3%	26.0%
FORGOT	11.5%	25.5%
OTHER	32.5%	22.9%
TOTAL	100.0% N=964	100.0% N=2876

Table 18/ Driver Estimation of Time Taken to be Stopped by Police for not Wearing Seat Belts in May 1978 and May 1981

TIME	MAY 1978	MAY 1981
A FEW DAYS	13.4%	11.4%
A WEEK	11.9%	8.9%
A MONTH	19.6%	15.2%
6 MONTHS OR MORE	15.1%	14.6%
A YEAR OR MORE	40.0%	49.9%
TOTAL	100.0% N=3197	100.0% N=6015

Table 19/ Number of Trips Taken by Drivers in a Week with Children Under Five in the Car in May 1981

NUMBER OF TRIPS	NUMBER (N)	PERCENTAGE
1	153	13.2%
2	179	15.5%
3	143	12.4%
4	127	11.0%
5	114	9.9%
1-5	716	62.0%
6-10	309	26.8%
11 or more	129	11.2%
TOTAL	1154	100.0%

NOTE: 42 drivers did not travel with children under five in the car.

Table 20/ Profile of Drivers

DRIVERS WITH (WITHOUT) CHILDREN UNDER FIVE IN THEIR HOUSEHOLD		
NUMBER OF DRIVERS WITH CHILDREN UNDER FIVE	1196	17.2%
NUMBERS OF DRIVERS WITHOUT CHILDREN UNDER FIVE	5765	82.8%
TOTAL NUMBER OF DRIVERS	6961	100.0%

NUMBER OF CHILDREN (IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF THE DRIVER)

ONE	781	65.3%
TWO	361	30.2%
THREE	43	3.6%
FOUR	9	0.7%
FIVE	2	0.2%
TOTAL	1196	100.0%

CHILD SAFETY SEAT OWNERSHIP (IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF THE DRIVER)

DRIVERS WITH CHILD SAFETY SEATS	826	69.1%
DRIVERS WITHOUT CHILD SAFETY SEATS	370	30.9%
TOTAL	1196	100.0%

NUMBER OF CHILD SAFETY SEATS (IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF THE DRIVER)

ONE	624	75.5%
TWO	187	22.6%
THREE	13	1.6%
FOUR	2	0.3%
TOTAL	826	100.0%

Table 21/ Percentage Of Children Under Five Years Of Age (In The Households Of The Drivers) Who Were Reported To Use Child Safety Seats (Regular Seat Belts) "Always", "Most of The Time", "Half The Time", "Some of The Time" Or "Never" If the Driver Owned At Least One Child Safety Seat

USAGE CATEGORY	CHILD SAFETY SEAT	REGULAR SEAT BELT
ALWAYS	57.7%	17.6%
MOST OF THE TIME	13.8%	6.1%
HALF OF THE TIME	3.4%	3.9%
ONCE IN AWHILE	3.4%	10.2%
NEVER	21.7%	62.2%
TOTAL	100% N=1104	100% N=1096

Table 22/ Percentage Of Children Under Five Years Of Age (In The Households Of The Drivers) Who Were Reported To Use Regular Seat Belts "Always", "Most Of The Time", Or "Never If the Driver Did Not Own A Child Safety Seat

USAGE CATEGORY	NUMBER	REGULAR SEAT BELT PERCENTAGE
ALWAYS	172	37.1%
MOST OF THE TIME	67	14.5%
HALF THE TIME	53	11.5%
ONCE IN AWHILE	65	14.0%
NEVER	106	22.9%
TOTAL	463	100.0%

Table 23/ "Are Children In Ontario Under Five Years Of Age Required By Law To Use Child Safety Seats?"

YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
55.8%	18.5%	25.7%	100.0% N=6958

DRIVER SEAT BELT WEARING STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
DRIVER WEARING	53.4%	20.0%	26.6%	100.0% N=3971

DRIVER NOT WEARING	58.4%	15.4%	26.2%	100.0% N=2871
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CHILDREN STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
WITH KIDS UNDER FIVE	43.0%	32.8%	24.2%	100.0% N=1194

WITHOUT KIDS UNDER FIVE	58.5%	15.5%	26.0%	100.0% N=5764
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DRIVERS WHO HAVE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE AND OWN (DON'T OWN) CHILD SAFETY SEATS (CSS)

HAVE CHILD-REN UNDER FIVE	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
OWN CSS	43.4%	30.5%	26.1%	100.0% N=822
DON'T OWN CSS	36.6%	33.6%	29.5%	100.0% N=372

Table 24/ "Are Children in Ontario Under Five Years of Age Required by Law to Use Regular Seat Belts?"

YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
44.2%	34.1%	21.4%	100.0% N=6949

DRIVER SEAT BELT WEARING STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
DRIVER WEARING	39.3%	37.1%	23.6%	100.0% N=3963
DRIVER NOT WEARING	44.5%	31.7%	23.8%	100.0% N=2867

CHILDREN STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
WITH KIDS UNDER FIVE	50.9%	34.7%	14.4%	100.0% N=1189
WITHOUT KIDS UNDER FIVE	42.8%	34.0%	22.8%	100.0% N=5760

DRIVERS WHO HAVE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE AND OWN (DON'T OWN) CHILD SAFETY SEATS (CSS)

HAVE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
OWN CSS	48.1%	32.9%	19.0%	100.0% N=817
DON'T OWN CSS	46.2%	36.3%	17.5%	100.0% N=372

Table 25/ "Important for Children Under Five Years of Age to Use Child Safety Seats?"

YES	NO	DON'T KNOW/ OTHER	TOTAL
93.7%	3.4%	2.9%	100.0% N=6948

DRIVER SEAT BELT WEARING STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW/ OTHER	TOTAL
DRIVER WEARING	95.1%	2.5%	2.4%	100.0% N=3964
DRIVER NOT WEARING	92.1%	4.3%	3.6%	100.0% N=2866

CHILD STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW/ OTHER	TOTAL
WITH KIDS UNDER FIVE	90.3%	6.9%	2.3%	100.0% N=1193
WITHOUT KIDS UNDER FIVE	94.4%	2.7%	2.7%	100.0% N=5755

DRIVERS WHO HAVE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE AND OWN (DON'T OWN) CHILD SAFETY SEATS (CSS)

HAVE CHILDREN	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
OWN CSS	95.0%	3.2%	1.8%	100.0% N=821
DON'T OWN CSS	80.6%	14.0%	5.4%	100.0% N=372

Table 26/ "Favour a Law Requiring Child Safety Seats for Children Under Five Years of Age?"

YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
82.3%	13.2%	4.5%	100.0% N=6934

DRIVER SEAT BELT WEARING STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
DRIVER WEARING	84.9%	11.2%	3.9%	100.0% N=3956
DRIVER NOT WEARING	79.9%	15.1%	5.0%	100.0% N=2871

CHILDREN STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
WITH KIDS UNDER FIVE	76.0%	20.7%	3.4%	100.0% N=1188
WITHOUT KIDS UNDER FIVE	83.6%	11.6%	4.2%	100.0% N=5746

DRIVERS WHO HAVE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE AND OWN (DON'T OWN) CHILD SAFETY SEATS (CSS)

HAVE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
OWN CSS	83.4%	13.4%	3.2%	100.0% N=818
DON'T OWN CSS	64.3%	31.9%	3.8%	100.0% N=370

Table 27/ "In Favour of the Present Seat Belt Law?"

YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
68.7%	25.2%	6.2%	100.0%
			N=6907

DRIVER SEAT BELT WEARING STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
DRIVER WEARING	77.2%	17.3%	5.5%	100.0%
				N=3952
DRIVER NOT WEARING	53.5%	38.9%	7.6%	100.0%
				N=2849

CHILDREN STATUS

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
WITH KIDS UNDER FIVE	66.2%	27.8%	5.5%	100.0%
				N=1183
WITHOUT KIDS UNDER FIVE	69.2%	24.7%	5.0%	100.0%
				N=5724

DRIVERS WHO HAVE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE AND OWN (DON'T OWN) CHILD SAFETY SEATS (CSS)

HAVE CHILDREN UNDER FIVE	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
OWN CSS	66.5%	27.6%	5.9%	100.0%
				N=813
DON'T OWN CSS	61.4%	32.2%	6.4%	100.0%
				N=370

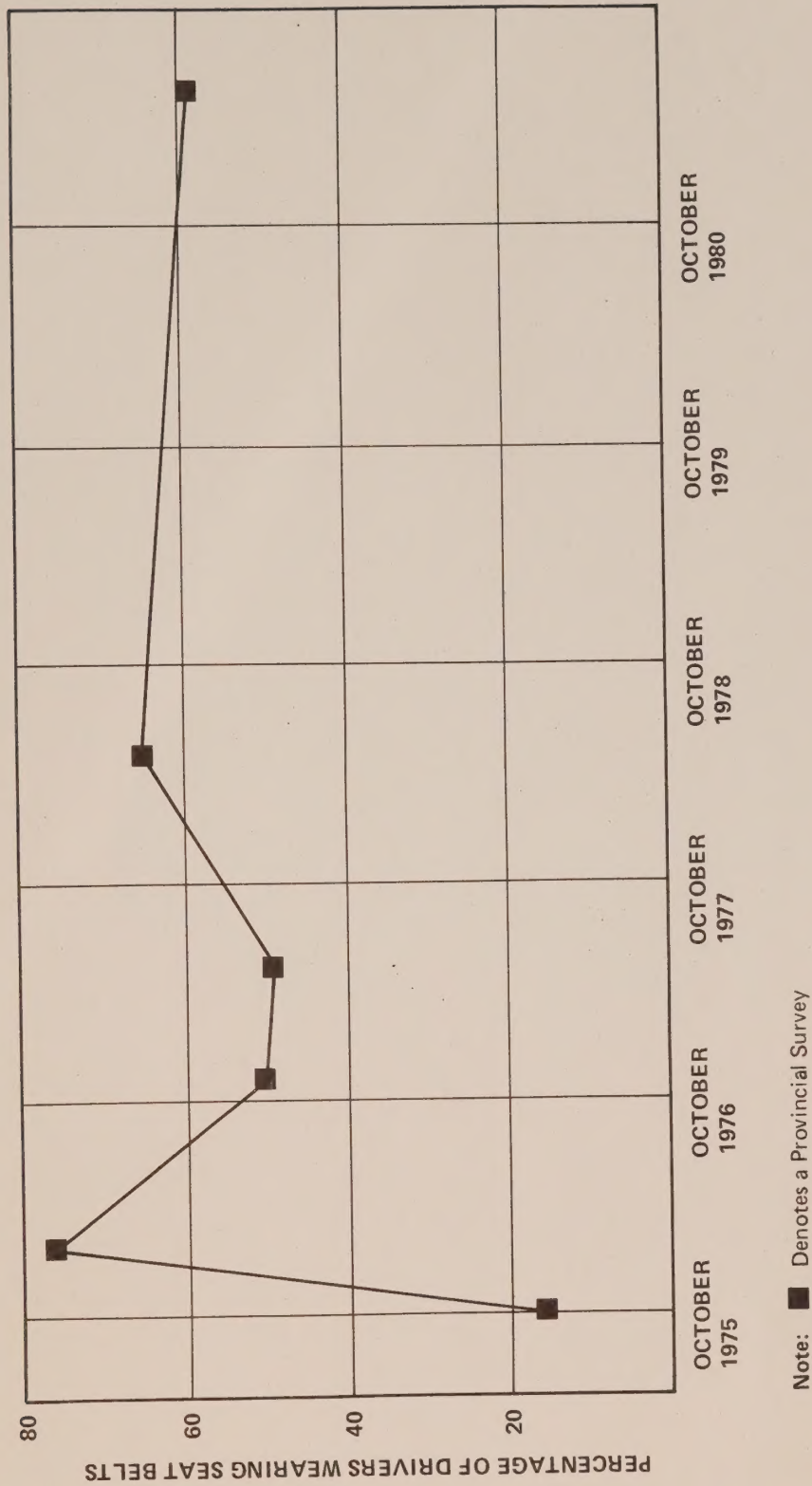


Figure 1/ Trend in Driver Compliance in Ontario Based on Roadside Surveys in October 1975, March 1976, November 1976, May 1977, May 1978 and May 1981

